

ABSTRACT

THESIS: Stellar Variability Near the Galactic Mid-Plane

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Using Ball State University's on-campus 20-inch telescope and a differential photometric data pipeline, we have observed two fields near the galactic mid-plane. We have collected photometric data in the near-infrared over the course of two years to look for variability. In the process we have discovered new variable stars as well as exoplanet candidates via the photometric transit method.